

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 6, 2005, claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10-12 and 15-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), claims 2-3, 13-14, 28-30 and 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and claims 7, 9, 26-27 and 31-32 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have incorporated the allowable subject matter of claim 7 into independent claim 1, and have canceled claims 4-7 and 15-18 to comply with the amendments to claim 1.

Applicants also have rewritten the allowable subject matter of claim 9 in independent form within amended claim 8. Claim 9 has been canceled.

In addition, Applicants have incorporated the allowable subject matter of claim 26 into independent claim 25, and have amended claim 27 to comply with amended claim 25. Claim 26 has been canceled.


Moreover, Applicants have incorporated the allowable subject matter of claim 31 into independent claim 30, and have amended claim 32 to comply with amended claim 30. Claim 31 has been canceled.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectively submit that, in view of the remarks above, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request such action. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (312) 913-3331 with any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

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By: 
Joseph A. Herndon
Reg. No. 50,469